



TOXTALK

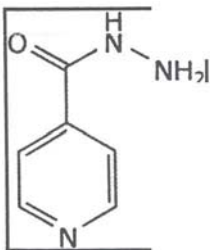
CASE NOTES: #3

ISONIAZID FINDING IN A POSTMORTEM CASE

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Isoniazid is an isonicotinic acid - derivative used in the treatment of mycobacterial and latent tuberculosis infections. It is readily absorbed and widely distributed into body tissues and fluids. Isoniazid mechanism of action is concentration dependent. Gastrointestinal disturbances, CNS depression, seizures and coma have been reported following over dosage with Isoniazid. We present a case of an 18 year old female who was prescribed isoniazid for treatment of tuberculosis. Autopsy did not reveal any anatomical cause of death. No active disease process of lung, liver or heart was noted at autopsy and cause of death was exclusive of any disease. All specimens submitted to the laboratory from the medical examiner's office were subject to standard analytical screening and confirmation protocols. Based on the scene investigation of the case, isoniazid analysis was performed on all submitted tissues. Isoniazid was extracted, derivatized and quantitated by gas chromatography - mass spectrometry. The results of the analysis were as follows: femoral blood - 53.4 mg/L, liver 26.8 mg/Kg, urine - 170 mg/L, and kidney - 10.4 mg/Kg. No other therapeutic drugs were detected in the analysis.



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